

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):	Yoshio Onuki, et al.	Examiner:	Unassigned
Serial No:	To be assigned	Art Unit:	Unassigned
Filed:	Herewith	Docket:	15679
For:	ENDOSCOPIC SUTURE APPARATUS	Dated:	July 10, 2003

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. U.S. Patent No. 5,792,153, dated August 11, 1998, issued to Swain et al.;
2. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 6-44913, published June 15, 1994; and
3. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 11-313826, published November 16, 1999.

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Dated: July 10, 2003


Thomas Spinelli

Applicants are submitting copies of the above-cited references. The relevance of the above-cited references has been described in the specification, therefore, translation are not required.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas Spinelli", written over the printed name.

Thomas Spinelli
Registration No.: 39,533

Scully, Scott, Murphy & Presser
400 Garden City Plaza
Garden City, New York 11530
(516) 742-4343

TS:cm

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>	Docket Number (Optional) 15679	Application Number To be assigned
	Applicant(s) Yoshio Onuki, et al.	
	Filing Date Herewith	Group Art Unit Unassigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5,792,153	8/11/1998	Swain et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO
	6-44913	6/15/1994	Japan				✓
	11-313826	11/16/1999	Japan				✓

OTHER DOCUMENTS <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.